

Serial Number: 09/884,249Docket Number: 10017175-1**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A rendering method, comprising:  
identifying an application employed to generate a digital document in a computer system;  
identifying a select rendering application from a number of rendering applications in the computer system to render the document into an output file embodied in a predefined file format; and  
automatically rendering the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format with the select rendering application by:  
setting a global print setting associated with the select rendering application to print to the output file;  
generating one of a plurality of instances of the select rendering application to automatically render the digital document into the output file, wherein the instances are executed concurrently; and  
commanding the one of the instances of the select rendering application to perform a print operation on the digital document.
2. (Original) The rendering method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving the digital document from a client device along with a rendering request.
3. (Original) The rendering method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting the digital document rendered in the output file embodied in the predefined file format to a client device.
4. (Original) The rendering method of claim 1, wherein the step of automatically rendering the digital document into the output file in the predefined file format with the select rendering application further comprises rendering the digital document into a printer compatible output file embodied in a language native to a predefined printer.

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5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The rendering method of claim 16, further comprising synchronizing an initiation of the print operation of the one of the instances ~~instance~~ of the select rendering application with a number of other initiations of print operations for other instances of the select rendering application to prevent a concurrent initiation of the print operation of at least two of the instances of the select rendering application.

8. (Currently Amended) A program embodied in a computer readable medium for document rendering, comprising:

code that identifies an application employed to generate a digital document in a computer system;

code that identifies a select rendering application from a number of rendering applications in the computer system to render the document into an output file embodied in a predefined file format; and

code that automatically executes the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format by:

code that sets a global print setting associated with the select rendering application to print to the output file;

code that generates one of a plurality of instances of the select rendering application to automatically render the digital document into the output file, wherein the instances are executed concurrently; and

code that commands the one of the instances of the select rendering application to perform a print operation on the digital document.

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9. (Original) The program embodied in a computer readable medium of claim 8, wherein the code that automatically executes the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format further comprises code that automatically executes the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in a language native to a predefined printer.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The program embodied in a computer readable medium of claim ~~844~~, further comprising code that synchronizes an initiation of the print operation of the one of the instances ~~instance~~ of the select rendering application with a number of other initiations of print operations for other instances of the select rendering application to prevent a concurrent initiation of the print operation of at least two of the instances of the select rendering application.

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13. (Currently Amended) A rendering system, comprising:  
a processor circuit having a processor and a memory;  
a rendering service executable by the processor and stored in the memory, the rendering service comprising:  
logic that identifies an application employed to generate a digital document in a computer system;  
logic that identifies a select rendering application from a number of rendering applications in the computer system to render the document into an output file embodied in a predefined file format; and  
logic that automatically executes the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format comprising:  
logic that sets a global print setting associated with the select rendering application to print to the output file;  
logic that generates one of a plurality of instances of the select rendering application to automatically render the digital document into the output file, wherein the instances are executed concurrently; and  
logic that commands the one of the instances of the select rendering application to perform a print operation on the digital document.

14. (Original) The rendering system of claim 13, wherein the logic that automatically executes the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format further comprises logic that automatically executes the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in a language native to a predefined printer.

15. (Canceled)

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16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The rendering system of claim 1346, further comprising logic that synchronizes an initiation of the print operation of the one of the instances ~~instance~~ of the select rendering application with a number of other initiations of print operations for other instances of the select rendering application to prevent a concurrent initiation of the print operation of at least two of the instances of the select rendering application.

18. (Currently Amended) A rendering system, comprising:  
means for identifying an application employed to generate a digital document in a computer system;  
means for identifying a select rendering application from a number of rendering applications in the computer system to render the document into an output file embodied in a predefined file format; and  
means for automatically executing the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format comprising:  
means for setting a global print setting associated with the select rendering application to print to the output file;  
means for generating one of a plurality of instances of the select rendering application to automatically render the digital document into the output file, wherein the instances are executed concurrently; and  
means for commanding the one of the instances of the select rendering application to perform a print operation on the digital document.

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19. (Original) The rendering system of claim 18, wherein the means for automatically executing the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in the predefined file format further comprises means for automatically executing the select rendering application to render the digital document into the output file embodied in a language native to a predefined printer.

20. (Canceled)

21. (New) The rendering method of claim 1, wherein the global print setting set when the one of the instances of the select rendering application is commanded to perform the print operation differs from the global print settings set when other ones of the instances are commanded to perform the print operation.

22. (New) The program embodied in the computer readable medium of claim 8, wherein the global print setting set when the one of the instances of the select rendering application is commanded to perform the print operation differs from the global print setting set when other ones of the instances are commanded to perform the print operation.

23. (New) The rendering system of claim 13, wherein the global print setting set when the one of the instances of the select rendering application is commanded to perform the print operation differs from the global print setting set when other ones of the instances are commanded to perform the print operation.